(b) Scheme for setting up of a permanent studio centre at Dehradun has already been sanctioned, however suitable site for the same is yet to be made available by the State Government. It would take about 2 to 3 years to complete the project after the site is made available to Doordarshan.

Urdu Channel

2026. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of TV channels commenced by DD in various languages;

(b) the reasons for not having any channels in Urdu;

(c) the time given to Urdu programmes by various channels of Doordarshan; and

(d) the reasons for ignoring Urdu, which is a language written and spoken from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and has strong international appeal?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Doordarshan operates a total of 25 TV Channels - Five All India Channels, 8 State Networks for the Hindi Belt, one International Channel and 11 Regional Language Satellite Channels in the following languages:

1. Malayalam
2. Tamil
3. Oriya
4. Bengali
5. Telugu
6. Kannada
7. Marathi
8. Gujarati
9. Kashmiri
10. Punjabi
11. Assamese & languages of North East

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that due to resource constraints in terms of manpower, equipment and funds, Doordarshan has not been in a position to start a channel in Urdu. However, there is a proposal to start a channel in Urdu from the next financial year.

(c) and (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that Urdu programmes and News bulletins are being telecast daily on a number of Doordarshan channels. The details of such programmes are given in the Statement.

Statement

The time given to Urdu Programme by various channels of Doordarshan (Kendra-wise average weekly Urdu telecast time)

Sl. No.	Kendra/Channel	Programme	News
1.	Ahmedabad	15mts.	-
2.	Bangalore	30 mts.	-
3.	Bhopal	38 mts.	-
4.	Hyderabad	30 mts.	10 mts. daily - 70 mts. per week
5.	Jaipur	15 mts.	-
6.	Jallandhar	8 mts.	-
7.	Jammu	67 mts.	15 mts. daily -105 mts. per week (Relayed from DDK, Srinagar)
8.	Delhi	30mts.	-
9.	Patna	8 mts.	10 mts. daily - 70 mts. per week
10.	Lucknow	30 mts.	5 mts. daily - 35mts. per week
11.	Gorakhpur	4 mts.	5 mts. daily - 35mts. per week and 30 mts. composite programme (Relayed from DDK, Lucknow)
12.	Kolkata	10 mts.	10 mts. daily- 70 mts. per week
13.	Srinagar	9 hrs. 15 mts.	15 mts. daily -105 mts. per week
14.	Kashir Channel	72 hrs. 25 mts.	15 mts. daily-105 mts. per week (Relayed from DDK, Srinagar since 15th August, 2004).
15.	DD(News)		15 mts. daily-105 mts. per week

Screening of feature films

2027. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made it mandatory that screening of any feature or documentary film in the Film Festivals, would require Central